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SATURDAY
JANUARY 30, 1954

I've been thinking this morning about the Four Ministers. Foster looks like an [redacted] antique Cretan bull. Bidault, with a face illuminated by intelligence and drollery, unusually attractive, like a rather fat elfin creature. Eden a fin de siècle elegant, languid aristocrat. Molotov an unsympathetic caricaturist's dream of right angles. By all odds our front row - Chip, Livy, Foster, Doug and Jim - are the most distinguished-looking single group worthy of Calvert Whiskey advertisements.

We had a quick lunch, and I accompanied Foster and Jim Conant to the West Berlin agricultural fair, an annual event. It was a twenty-minute walk-through with numerous photographers snapping the Secretary. We went directly from the exposition grounds to the Allied Control building, where the session was resumed at three o'clock.

The three Western powers expressed their opposition to having representatives of the two Germanys join the deliberations. Consideration was resumed of item 2, the German question. Eden passed, Molotov plunged.

I have been reading each night portions of Hervey's Memoirs on the Court of George II. The character of this really contemptible, insensitive Hanoverian is revealed in all its dullness and pettiness. His contempt for literature and all forms of art, his pettifogging practices, his maunderings to his patient wife, his sordid gallantries, his marked inferiority in comparison with the overwhelming majority of his subjects make one wonder at his good fortune in maintaining himself on the throne of England. When the Queen was dying she counselled him to remarry. Deeply affected, he answered that he would not do so but no doubt would have mistresses. She wryly replied, "Cela n'empêche pas." The forty to sixty-page letters that so often passed between the royal couple during their separations were, strangely enough in view of the national origins

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of both, written in French.

Molotov insisted that a free and united Germany should not be bound by any prior engagements, especially those contracted by the Federal Government under the Bonn and Paris proposals. The Western powers, of course, have always agreed with this.

Foster made a long and well-reasoned statement. Fifty minutes (including translation into Russian and English available at the same time through headphones) of polished prose - effective too - from Bidault.

Eden was, as usual, graceful and courteous. When he had finished the meeting adjourned on a note of jocularity injected by Bidault.

The decision on this week of debate should be awarded to the three Westerners.

Bob Bowie, E. and I dined tonight at the Ritz Restaurant. Good Chinese food.

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